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counting, among other things, for the spread of Christianity. Finally the West and East began once more to differentiate, the two parts of the empire fell apart and this tendency found expression in the reorganization of Diocletian. Thereafter the West went its own way to the Middle Ages, and at this point Ferrero proposes to bring his work to a close.

The four volumes that have so far appeared in English translation (the translation of the fifth and last volume to appear, as yet, in the original is promised for this spring) bring the history down only to the year 23 B. C. A work on such a scale and one, moreover, that is so permeated with the individual theories of the author, has naturally given rise to great controversy. It has been received with much enthusiasm in France, with more reserve in Germany and, strange to say, has found its most bitter opponents among the writer's own countrymen. It is the general opinion, however, that the work is a most important contribution to our knowledge of Roman history and it steadily improves as it goes on, the author showing a constantly increasing command of his sources and mastery of historic method. So, too, his interpretations seem to become less *a priori* opinions in support of which facts are cited than conclusions flowing naturally from a narrative told for its own sake.

Few will lay down the work without feeling that it has thrown light on many obscure points in the period. An English scholar has spoken of the book rather contemptuously as merely a series of brilliant guesses regarding the history of Rome. In a sense this is true. In the same sense it is equally true of all the good histories of Rome ever written. The sources for the elucidation of the period are so meagre that anyone who undertakes to write its history is compelled to fill in the innumerable gaps in our direct knowledge by conjecture and inference regarding many events and the probable forces at work. What distinguishes the work of Ferrero is precisely the brilliancy of his guesses—the satisfactory manner in which they make the epoch live again. So far, they suggest to the mind a fairly adequate explanation of the building up of the Roman empire and the overthrow of the republican constitution.

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**Henderson, Charles R.** *Industrial Insurance in the United States.* Pp. 429. Price, \$2.00. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1909.

Although this volume is in the main an English version of a German book on this subject much new matter has been added. As far as possible it is an up-to-date discussion of the history and problem of industrial insurance—a piece of work badly needed because of the absence of recent literature on the subject.

The author, in a single chapter, surveys industrial insurance in Europe and Australia, giving a brief description of the different systems in vogue, and the present tendency toward insurance in Great Britain. In discussing

the subject for the United States, Professor Henderson sets forth the fundamentals on which a sound insurance policy should rest. The problem of accidents is considered, but unfortunately the paucity of data makes a satisfactory discussion of trade life impossible. Our advancement is epitomized in the following sentence: "America has no system of industrial insurance, but a beginning has been made from various starting-points—local societies, trades-unions, fraternal societies, employers' initiative, private corporations, casualty companies, and municipalities." In subsequent discussion the mutual benefit associations organized in many mercantile and manufacturing establishments receive considerable attention and an entire chapter is devoted to the benefit features of the trade unions. The insurance features of fraternal societies are briefly stated and the plans of certain corporations and railway companies are given with considerable detail. The interesting movement in favor of pensions for public school teachers calls for a brief outline as well as our national and state pension system.

The author gives some attention to preventive work and effectively analyzes the subject of employers' liability. Additional subjects included are: factory inspection, legislation against accidents and disease, against long hours, and laws protecting women and children. The book contains a number of valuable appendices, these consisting largely of rules and agreements of various benefit associations. An English book on this important subject is timely and for the present this volume supplies the deficiency

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**Key, Ellen.** *The Century of the Child.* Pp. 339. Price, \$1.50. New York: Putnam's Sons, 1909.

In this book the author discusses a topic of vital importance to our development as a nation. The rights of the child have too long been unrecognized, the right to choose his parents, to have a home, to secure the proper kind of education. Not only the duty of all parents to so order their lives that their offspring may be of the highest possible type is excellently brought out by Miss Key, but also the special duty of the mother to the unborn race. She is correct in saying that the participation by women in most unskilled trades unfits them for the duties of motherhood, but she rather overlooks the fact that the exchange by an ever-increasing number of our more highly-educated women of their former unskilled domestic tasks, for skilled, extra-domestic occupations may not only not injure them physically, but vastly improve their mental and moral capacity for child training.

The right of the child to expand freely rather than be molded by our present repressive education, and his right to a real home in which to expand are also further developed. In conclusion, Miss Key's program for an ideal